Commission on Human Rights

Kentucky Human Rights Commission calls for nominations for the 2014 KY Civil Rights Hall of Fame

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April 7, 2014, Louisville, KY - The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is pleased to announce the call for nominations to its Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame 2014 inductions. The commission will accept nominations from the public beginning Tuesday, April 15. The nomination deadline is July 15, 2014.

The induction ceremony is tentatively scheduled for October 2014. The date and location will be announced as soon as possible.

The nomination form may be found on the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights website at www.kchr.ky.gov. For more information, call Cynthia Fox at 502.782.9726.

The Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame was established in 2000 to recognize brave men and women who have been leaders in the struggle for equality and justice in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Inductees have worked to end discrimination in several areas.

As examples, they have fought for desegregation of schools and public accommodations; they have pushed for civil rights legislation and equal opportunity in education, employment and housing; and, they have given of their time, resources, and service toward efforts that challenged and changed old, unjust philosophies and systems.

The Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame is designed to raise public awareness about human rights issues and to foster an environment for discussion and education regarding Kentucky civil rights history and ongoing challenges.

After the inaugural 2000 event, inductions were held again in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2010 and 2012.

Most of the induction ceremonies have occurred in Louisville. However, in 2005, the event was held in Frankfort at Kentucky State University, at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights in September 2007, and at the Lyric Theatre in Lexington in 2012.

Since the inaugural event, 132 people have been inducted into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame; 22 in 2000, 16 in 2001, 14 in 2003, 14 in 2005, 21 in 2007, 31 in 2010, and 14 in 2012.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is the state government authority that enforces the Kentucky Civil Rights Act, and, through its affiliation with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, enforces federal civil rights laws.

The Kentucky Civil Rights Act makes it illegal to discriminate against people in the areas of employment, financial transactions, housing and public accommodations. Discrimination is prohibited in these areas based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, and disability. In employment, discrimination is further prohibited on the basis of age (40-years and over) and on the basis of tobacco-smoking status. In housing, discrimination is further prohibited based on familial status, which protects people with children in the household under the age of 18-years old, and it protects women who are pregnant. It is also a violation of the law to retaliate against a person for complaining of discrimination to the commission.

For more information, contact the commission at 1.800.292.5566. For details about civil rights and commission activities, visit the website at www.kchr.ky.gov

For news about civil rights and information pertaining to protected classes, visit the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Facebook and Twitter sites. Directly link to the sites from the commission website address listed above.